



Issue

According to the 2012 Indiana Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 77.1 percent of women ages 18 and over with health care coverage reported having a Pap test in the past three years. Among women who lacked health care coverage, 42.9 percent reported not having a Pap in the past 3 years. Overall, 67.7 percent of women ages 40 or over reported having a mammogram in the past 2 years. In comparison, 62.8 percent of women who lacked health care coverage reported not having a mammogram in the past 3 years. As a result, the Indiana Cancer Consortium (ICC) Breast and Cervical Cancer Committee, with more than 25 active members representing organizations across the state, recognized that many women are not receiving breast and cervical cancer screenings.

Project

The ICC Breast and Cervical Cancer Committee collaborated with the Indiana State Department of Health Epidemiology Resource Center to develop a resource page to help healthcare professionals identify assistance programs for eligible women.

Addressing Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Barriers in Indiana

Many cancers, such as breast and cervical cancer, can be prevented or identified at an early stage if people receive regular medical care and obtain early detection cancer screenings. Yet, hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers do not have health care coverage or cannot see the provider because of cost in order to obtain early detection screenings. In 2012, among Indiana adults, roughly 79 percent of women ages 18 and older received a pap screening during the past three years and 71 percent of women ages 40 and older had a mammography screening during the past two years. These numbers show there is a consistent group of females who are not being screened.

In response, the ICC Breast and Cervical Cancer Committee is currently conducting a survey of health providers that will help identify barriers and issues that currently exist around breast and cervical cancer screenings in Indiana. The results will be shared through the ICC website upon release; however, while survey responses are being compiled, the ICC developed a couple of tools for health care providers to use while discussing screening options with women who may be eligible for such programs.

A Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Asset Map has been developed to identify providers that provide free or low-cost breast and cervical cancer screenings through the Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program, Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust Grantees, Susan G. Komen Grant Recipients, and Maternal and Child Health Title V Grantees.

A Provider Flow Chart has also been developed by the ICC Breast and Cervical Cancer Committee. The Provider Flow Chart outlines programs and services existing for the un- or underinsured populations for free or reduced cost breast and cervical cancer screenings.

An additional resource is Indiana Medicaid Option 3. Women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer cervical cancer may be eligible for Indiana Medicaid Option 3 if they meet the income eligibility requirements, which are at or below 200% of the federal poverty level, according to household size. The program is available to women ages 18-64. If Option 3 enrollment is granted, it will remain active throughout the duration of cancer treatment and will terminate upon treatment completion. For additional information about Option 3 or to verify eligibility, contact the Family Help Line at 1-855-HELP-1ST (1-855-435-7178).

Project

Breast and Cervical Cancer Services Resource Map

Healthcare professionals may use the breast and cervical cancer screening asset map to identify providers offering free or low-cost breast and cervical cancer screenings through various resources.

The map also displays county health indicator data.

The interactive resource map allows users to see location and contact information with one click.

Providers located in a specific geographic area may be identified.

A provider flow chart was developed outlining existing programs and services offering free or reduced-cost breast and cervical cancer screenings to the un/underinsured, along with program eligibility requirements. The flow chart is designed in steps to ensure women qualify for the most appropriate program. See figures 1, 2, and 3 for the progression of these steps.

Figure 1. Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Services and Eligibility

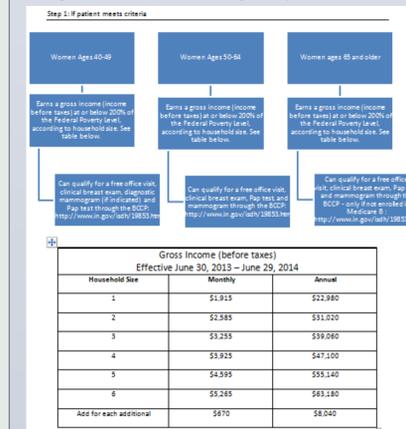


Figure 2. Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust Services and Eligibility

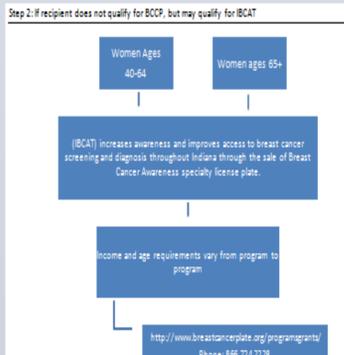


Figure 3. Susan G. Komen for the Cure Services and Eligibility



Results

The ICC Breast and Cervical Cancer Committee members shared the breast and cervical cancer screening resource page with over 300 contacts, including but not limited to healthcare professionals, community health workers, and local health departments. The resource page is also frequently shared during presentations about local breast and cervical cancer screening resources.

Lessons Learned

The resources were initially directed to physicians, in conjunction with a survey to assess screening barriers and adherence to screening guidelines; however, the committee experienced barriers reaching physicians. In response, the committee expanded the audience to include other healthcare professionals including, nurses, community health workers, patient navigators, etc. Additionally, the web mapping interface can be retooled to improve the user experience and accessibility to content as necessary.

Resources

The Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Resource Page can be located at: <http://indianacancer.org/addressing-breast-and-cervical-cancer-screening-barriers-in-indiana/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

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